

proceed to the following nominations en bloc: Calendar Nos. 637, 702, 703, and 709; that the Senate vote on the nominations en bloc; that the motions to reconsider be made and laid on the table without intervening action or debate; that any statements related to the nominations be printed in the Record; and that the President be immediately notified of the Senate's action.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The question is, Will the Senate advise and consent to the nominations of Claudia Slacik, of New York, to be a Director of the Securities Investor Protection Corporation for a term expiring December 31, 2023; Thomas E. Rothman, of California, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2026; Elizabeth M. Sembler, of Florida, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2026 (Reappointment); and Laura Gore Ross, of New York, to be a Member of the Board of Directors of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting for a term expiring January 31, 2028 (Reappointment)?

The nominations were confirmed en bloc.

#### UNANIMOUS CONSENT AGREE- MENT—EXECUTIVE CALENDAR

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that all postcloture time with respect to all nominations on which cloture was invoked on February 2 and 3, 2022, be considered expired and that the confirmation votes be at a time to be determined by the majority leader in consultation with the Republican leader.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### LEGISLATIVE SESSION

##### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. WYDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to legislative session for a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### RECOGNIZING GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY LAW CENTER

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, in 1961, when I was deciding where to attend law school, I was looking for an institution where I could not only learn about the law in the abstract, but also how it is applied, interpreted, and written. I was immediately drawn to the Georgetown University Law Center, given that is steps from the U.S. Capitol and Supreme Court. The education that I received in my years at George-

town Law helped me to understand that the way in which the law is written directly impacts the lives and livelihoods of millions of people, affirmed the importance of working to uphold and improve the law, and guided me toward a career in public service.

And I am not the only person in the Senate who had this experience at Georgetown Law. Senators HIRONO, DURBIN, VAN HOLLEN, and SULLIVAN all count themselves as alumni. House Majority Leader STENY HOYER was my classmate. Graduates of Georgetown Law also work in offices across the Capitol, including my own, using their legal education to help serve constituents, drive measureable change in our communities, and better our legal system.

For many Americans, the events of the past few years have brought into focus the importance of preserving our Nation's institutions and the collective work that must be done to ensure that they work better for all Americans. As a result, thousands more Americans have flocked to law school in recent application cycles. With its location in Washington, DC, and its wealth of courses, incredible practitioners and faculty, and innovative research centers, Georgetown Law has been well-positioned to take advantage of the heightened interest in the legal field.

For the 2021–2022 academic year, Georgetown University Law Center received a record 14,052 applications, an increase of 41 percent of the previous year. This incredible achievement demonstrates Georgetown Law's strength as a leader in the field of legal education. Congratulations to Georgetown University Law Center for this exceptional record. I have full confidence that Georgetown Law will continue to shape future leaders for years to come, preparing them to address the myriad challenges our society faces and to fight for justice for every person and every community.

Dean William Treanor does a superb job of leadership, and we often speak of the inspiring path of the law center over so many decades.

Georgetown University Law Center was featured in an article in the Washington Post late last year. I ask unanimous consent that the article titled, "The country's most popular law school got an unexpected jolt" be printed in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

[From the Washington Post, Nov. 13, 2021]  
THE COUNTRY'S MOST POPULAR LAW SCHOOL  
GOT AN UNEXPECTED JOLT  
(By Valerie Strauss)

Year in and year out, the Georgetown University Law Center in D.C. gets more applications than any other law school in the country (and yes, that includes law schools at Harvard and Yale and Stanford). But what happened for the 2021–22 academic year was historic.

Collectively, U.S. law schools this year saw an increase of at least 12 percent in applicants for classes that started this fall and a

26 percent jump in applications—the largest in nearly 20 years, according to the nonprofit Law School Admission Council.

At Georgetown University Law Center, the increase was so high that it shocked Georgetown law officials, who have become accustomed to being the country's most popular law school. The school saw a 41 percent increase in applicants—for a total of 14,052. Of all law school applicants nationwide, 1 in 5 applied to Georgetown. It is the largest law school in the country with some 2,000 students in juris doctor degree (JD) programs, with Harvard second at some 1,750 JD students.

The rise in law school applications across the country—which left some law schools overenrolled this fall—was a result of several factors, said Susan Krinsky, executive vice president for operations and chief of staff at the Law School Admission Council. "I don't like to call it a perfect storm, but it was," she said.

Fallout from the coronavirus pandemic played a big role, with economic uncertainty that traditionally fuels applications to professional schools, she said. Many young people lost their jobs and decided to give law school a chance. But a continuation of what is called "the Trump bump" was a factor too, she said.

Law school applications began to rise after the 2016 presidential election, with President Donald Trump's Muslim ban and immigration policies helping to fuel the increase, she said. What happened in 2020—including the police killing of George Floyd and the racial justice movement that arose from it—spurred more applicants, she said, as did the death of Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg and the confirmation of a controversial successor.

"There was a generalized increase in interest about what lawyers do—or can do," she said.

A 2020 survey by Kaplan Test Prep of more than 100 U.S. law schools found that 84 percent of admissions officers (and 87 percent in a 2018 survey) believed that the political climate was a "significant" factor in the rise in applicants for that year—and that continued in the 2020–21 applications cycle.

Why, though, did Georgetown University Law Center have such a huge rise in applicants?

"I think it's a combination of things," said William M. Treanor, dean and executive vice president of Georgetown Law. "Washington, D.C., is a huge lure. It offers you things you can't get anywhere else. And we have internships with lawmakers and policymakers and faculty engaged directly in the issues of the day."

Georgetown has a night school, joint degree and advanced degree programs, an Office of Public Interest and Community Service and it specializes in some of the hottest legal subjects—including environmental, health and international law. Its Human Rights Institute is a draw for students—and it attracts some big legal names. Now on the faculty, for example, is Doug Emhoff, the country's first second gentleman (he is married to Vice President Harris), a leading intellectual property and business litigator and expert on entertainment and media law.

Treanor said the political climate was an important factor in the surge of applications at Georgetown. He said he became interested in the law when he was in high school during a similarly contentious time in American political life—the Watergate era of the early 1970s. President Richard Nixon was forced to resign after his administration was caught breaking the law.

"That was a period in which people were drawn to law school and the thought that law matters and the fight for justice can